THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FAILEIRO): (a) to (c) Consequent on the decontrol of phosphatie fertilizers w.e.f. 25.8.1992 and also decanalisation of DAP imports, producers/suppliere are free to sell phosphatic fertilizers in the open market with no subsidy from the Government. Imported DAP is available at a considerably tower price compared to the cost of production of indigenous units. Faced with this situation, a number of DAP units have suspended production. Units making nitrogenous fertilizers are however functioning ror-mally.

In dealing with this situation for the phosphatic industry Government are keen to ensure supplies at affordable prices to farmers. Accordins'y, the foens is on helping the industry to bring down their cost of production and become more competitive. Goverrment has already abolished customs duty on import of phosphoric acid. Government has also announced a scheme of refund of customs duty paid on capital goods, ...as also a concession of 3 per cent in interest rate on term loans, provided that the net interest rate after adjust-ment of (his concession remains at a mintrmirn of 12 rer cent. These concessions are available to all the fertilizer plants commissioned on or after 1.1. 1991. The phosphatie industry has also filed an application for initiating antidumping procsedings in respect of imported DAP.

Steep rise in the price of 'Actrom-4 tablet

@1880. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 'Acitrom-4 is a life saving drug End used in curing heart ailment;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware of the fact that the prices of

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'Acitrom-4' has gone up from Rs. 13/-per tablet to Rs. 60/- per tablet;

(c) whether it is a fact that Din-devan and Variferin which are the subes-titues of this medicine are also not available in the market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government to check the Prices of 'Acitrom-4'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e) Acitrcm-4 is a nen-sche. duled formulation, and the manuracturer increase 1 the price from Rs. 9.15 in March '92 to Rs. 55.61 in November '92 for 10's strip. However, on Govern. ment intervention, the company has reduced the Price from Rs. 55.61 to Rs. 42.05 recently.

(c) and (d) No shortages of these from llatians have come to the notice of the Government in the recent pas;-.

Iequiry into the cffairs of M/s. Lupia Lab:. Limited

1881. SHRI ABDUL SAMAD SID. DIQUI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ma jar producer of rifampicin M/s. Lupin La's. Ltd., was to commence basie pro-duction lons bcak but imporh of inter mediates and penultimates were permit-ed to the company by relaxing the con dition?;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently when PMP of the company expired in March, 1993, advance imports for 1-2 years have been permitted;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the company has indult-ed in bungling of crores of rupees in imports and exports and have also got their input norms manipulated in respect of anti T.B. drugs and other drugs; and